

Power of Nature – Multimedia Project
Sample Script: Jet Stream

NARRATOR: The jet stream, a river of air above the Earth, is caused by the Coriolis effect.

*Excerpts of videos of Coriolis Effect and NASA jet stream explanations.
Land and Sea Temperature images begin with July 10, 2010 at Noon UTC.*

NARRATOR: These images are of land and sea temperatures from July 10th through August 10th, 2010. Note that as the Earth turns eastward, the land warms and cools from east to west. Also, the northern hemisphere is generally warmer than the southern hemisphere – where it is winter.

NASA jet stream video excerpt #2.

NARRATOR: Now you're looking down on the northern hemisphere from above the North Pole, from July 10th through August 10th.

JET STREAM: I'm the jet stream! Watch me circulate faster than the Earth turns! That's why planes fly faster from west to east than they do from east to west – they either catch my gust, or fight it.

NASA jet stream video excerpt #3, showing how cold northern air and warm southern air mix in the jet stream in the northern hemisphere.

Dick Verdoorn's explanation of the Jet Stream.

A month-long series of images of jet stream patterns over North America begins with July 10th.

JET STREAM: Here I am, riding high above North America – again, July 10th through August 10th. It's summertime, so I'm at a high latitude. Do you see how I'm carrying all of the weather with me from west to east? The arrows indicate circulations of air that cause wind.

POLIE: I'm Polie from the North Pole! I'm a cold air molecule, moving south!

EQUIE: I'm Equie from the Equator! I'm a warm air molecule, moving north!

JET STREAM: I'm gonna scoop you up and take you both with me!

Air molecules arriving from the North Pole and Equator are seen floating around in different weather systems as they traverse the United States.

POLIE: Whoa!

EQUIE: Whoa!

POLIE & EQUIE: Whoa!

EQUIE: Hey Polie! I got caught up in a low pressure system turning counter-clockwise!

POLIE: Yeah – and I'm in a high pressure system turning clockwise!

EQUIE: We're moving across the country, too!